South Carolina Workforce

April 2009 Issue . . . February 2009 Data

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Biomass at Forefront of Clean Energy

Joe James wants to have four torrefaction plants in South Carolina in the next five years, creating 200 new jobs and a \$40 million infusion into the local economy.

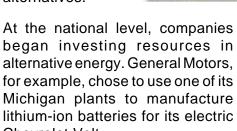
Torrefaction is a process that uses high heat to roast material and, in this case, to convert biomass into fuel and efficient pellets to be used as energy sources.

James, CEO of Agri-Tech Producers LLC and treasurer of the SC Biomass Council, sees biomass technology leading the charge for clean, renewable energy in the state, not only providing cleaner energy but acting as an economic catalyst for development.

"We think this could provide a tremendous economic stimulus to the state," James said.

Setting the stage

The foundation for clean energy development has been forming during the past several years in the public and private sector. Increasing energy prices and environmental concern raised demand for clean energy alternatives.





Chevrolet Volt.

President Barack Obama has outlined goals of investing \$150 billion during the next 10 years to encourage private efforts in clean energy and to have 10% of America's electricity come from renewable sources by 2012. Currently, 4% of South Carolina's energy comes from renewable sources, said Erika Myers, renewable energy coordinator with the S.C. Energy Office.

Clean energy has proved to be a popular choice for venture capital firms. Although the overall amount of venture capital invested decreased by 8% in 2008, investments in the clean energy sector increased by 52% over 2007

in this BOSS	Auto Related Jobs in SC	Average Hours and Earnings
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Continued from page 1

numbers, according to the National Venture Capital Association.

However, as the credit markets have frozen, even clean technology companies have been hard-pressed for capital. Part of Obama's stimulus plan working its way through Congress as of press time delegates money to the clean energy sector in the form of tax credits, low-interest loans and loan guarantees, and grants to loosen up money for private-sector investment in clean technology.

South Carolina's potential for green

Many energy experts have pegged biomass as the next big thing in South Carolina as far as clean energy development.

"Biomass is the biggest upcoming thing for the next five to 10 years," Myers said. Although solar and wind are important as well, Myers sees those much further in the future for South Carolina. "If we're looking at projects we can do now, biomass is it."

So far, development in this field has been a private and public partnership.

The University of South Carolina opened a biomass plant that provides energy to the campus. The Savannah River Site near Aiken is replacing a coal plant with a biomass plant, and Clemson University has projects working to develop bioenergy crops, such as switch grass, that can be used in biomass plants.

"There's huge growth potential in South Carolina, particularly when we start leveraging some of the state's natural resources," said Russ Keller, senior director for alternative energy programs at the SC Research Authority.



This Santee Cooper electricity generating station in Lee County uses biogas extracted from an Allied Waste landfill. (Photo/Jim Huff, Santee Cooper)

These resources include open land that can grow switch grass, as well as other biomass material, such as trees — of which South Carolina has an abundance.

Both Keller and Myers said significant business interest exists in taking advantage of the push for clean energy.

"There are businesses that want to start projects," Myers said. "It's a matter of getting the capital to do it, so these loans and loan guarantees can help."

Myers has been working with an engineering company in Greer that is trying to get financing to construct two biomass energy plants in the state. It's in the process of applying for loans, government grants and venture capital investments.

Myers is hopeful the money allocated in Obama's stimulus plan for clean energy will become available to businesses such as this one.

"Both government and the private sector will drive this forward," Keller said. "Government will provide the initial investment, then, once the industry gets to a certain level, we'll look to the private sector to pick it up and run with it."

Businesses already running with it

One biomass entrepreneur has already been looking at the biomass industry from a business perspective.

James, the Agri-Tech CEO, who also is president of the Corporation for Economic Opportunity in Columbia, had been working with Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests to find customers for the wood waste and biomass produced when the forests are thinned out.

After finding that shipping biomass is most economical within a 25- to 50-mile radius, James started looking for a solution that

would allow the biomass to be shipped longer distances.

James got wind of torrefaction research that North Carolina State University was doing to improve biomass, and he jumped on it. The torrefaction process removes the water from the biomass, reducing the weight and increasing the economy of more far-flung shipment.

Agri-Tech started talking to forestry groups and electric utilities in South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia and found demand existed for the torrefied material. So James put together plans to have at least four torrefaction plants in South Carolina in the next five years.

These plants would torrefy either paper waste from paper mills or material from forestry and farming. The torrefied material can be burned with coal — either by electric companies to create power, by other organizations who have heating plants that rely on coal or by companies who make cellulosic ethanol from it.

James estimates that each of the four plants would employ 25 people and the plants would cost about \$10 million each. The effects could

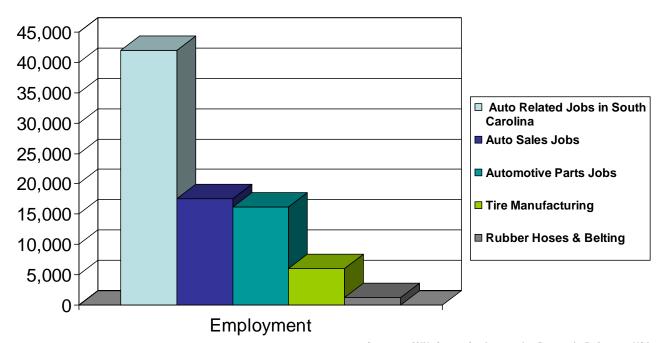
be significant for rural communities, he said.

"The green economy is a good potential stimulus for rural communities," James said. "It could do more for them by taking advantage of their natural resources, like farming and forestland."

But in addition to creating jobs, using torrefied material in electric utility companies, such as Santee Cooper, would decrease the amount of coal the state has to import and fire, James said. Currently, the state gets about 61% of its electricity from coal.

by Chelsea Hadaway, Reprinted with permission from the Charleston Regional Business Journal

Auto Related Jobs in South Carolina



Sources: CNN, Center for Automotive Research, Reference USA, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics

South Carolina has in excess of 40,000 jobs associated with the automobile industry. Many of the jobs are in support industries that supply primary manufacturers of cars and trucks in the U.S. and other countries. Cars and light truck sales have rapidly declined - down 38% since February 2008. The continued decline in sales will affect employment at manufacturers, dealers, suppliers and many support industries in the auto sector.



National unemployment rate climbs . . .

The national unemployment rate continued to climb in February, from 7.6% to 8.1%, and was up 3.3 perentage points from a year ago. The number of unemployed people jumped to 12.5 million, up from 11.6 million. Unemployment rates for adult men (8.1%), adult women (6.7%), whites (7.3%), blacks (13.4%), Hispanics (10.9%) also increased in February.

Regional and State ... The West and Midwest again posted the highest regional jobless rates, 9.2% and 8.6%, respectively. The Northwest recorded the lowest rate at 7.7%. Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia registered statistically significant overthe-month unemployment rate increases in February. Michigan again reported the highest jobless rate (12.0%). The states with the next highest rates were South Carolina (11.0%), Oregon (10.8%), and North Carolina (10.7%). California and Rhode Island tied at 10.5% each. North Carolina reported the largest jobless rate increase from a year earlier (+5.5 percentage points), followed by Oregon (+5.4 percentage points), and South Carolina (+5.3 points).

Nonfarm Employment Declines... Total nonfarm payroll employment dropped by 651,000 in February. Since the recession began in December 2007, 4.4 million jobs have been lost, with more than half (2.6 million) of the decrease occurring in the last 4 months. In February, employment declined in most major industry sectors, with the largest losses occurring in Professional and Business Services, Manufacturing,

continued to add jobs during the month. Employment in Professional and Business Services fell by 180,000 in February. The Temporary Help industry lost 78,000 jobs. Widespread job losses continued as Manufacturing decreased by 168,000. The majority of the decline occurred in Durable Goods industries (-132,000). with the largest decreases in Fabricated Metal Products (-28,000) and Machinery (-25,000). The construction industry continued to decline (-104,000), and has fallen by 1.1 million since peaking in January 2007. Truck Transportation decreased by 33,000 in February, while the Information industry lost 15,000 jobs. Financial Activities dropped by 44,000 over the month and have lost 448,000 jobs since a peak in December 2006. Retail Trade fell by 40,000 in February and by 608,000 since a peak in November 2007. Wholesale Trade fell by 37,000. Leisure and Hospitality continued to tumble with 33,000 jobs lost. Health Care continued to grow in February, with a gain of 27,000 jobs, mostly in Ambulatory Health Care (16,000) and in Hospitals (7,000).

Average Hourly and Weekly Earnings...In February, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls remained at 33.3 hours for the third month in a row. The manufacturing workweek decreased by 0.2 hour, to 39.6 hours. Average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 3 cents, or 0.2%, seasonally adjusted. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings increased by 3.6% and average weekly earnings rose by 2.1%.

Producer Price Index (PPI) Increases...The Producer Price Index, which measures the cost of a basket of goods and services from the perspective of the seller, rose 0.1% in February, seasonally adjusted. This rise followed a 0.8% increase in January and a 1.9% drop in and Construction. Health Care December. The increase in the index

for finished energy goods slowed to 1.3% in February from 3.7% in January. More than half of this deceleration can be traced to gasoline prices, which moved up 8.7% in February, following a 15.0% jump the previous month.

Consumer **Prices** Up...The Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the average change in prices of goods and services from the purchaser's perspective, increased 0.5% in February, before seasonal adjustment. This level of 212.193 (1982-84=100) was 0.2% higher than in February 2008. The energy index rose 3.3% in February, following a 1.7% increase in January, as the gasoline index rose 8.3% in February, after a 6.0% increase in January. In contrast, the indexes for fuel oil and natural gas both declined in February. About two-thirds of the items increase was due to the rise in the gasoline index. Compared to the July 2008 peak, the energy index was 29.2% lower and the gasoline index was down 44.0%.

The University of Michigan's Index of Consumer Sentiment fell to 56.3 in February, from 61.2 in January. Fast spreading unemployment and the view that the recession would last into 2010 as well as the belief that continuous economic gains would not be seen for at least 5 years impacted the survey. An all time record number of consumers indicated that their incomes declined in February. Falling or stagnant wages were expected by a vast majority of survey participants.

Sources:

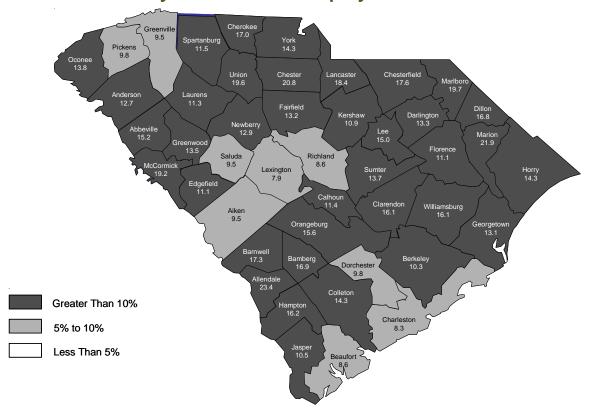
- **Bureau of Labor Statistics**
- U.S. Department of Labor University of Michigan

edited by S.T. McLaughlin and J. Moon



South Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

February 2009 State Unemployment Rate = 11.0%



United States Unemployment Rates by State



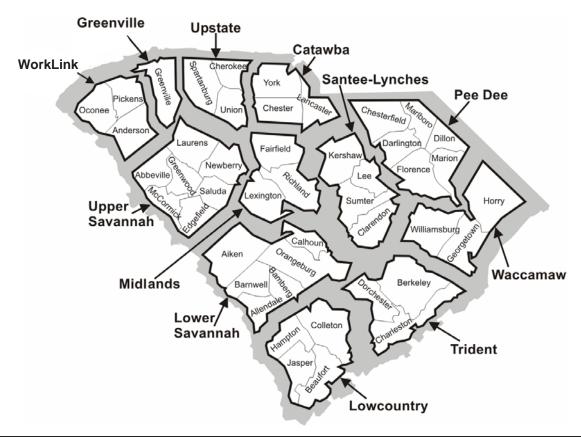
Labor Force and Unemployment by County and Metropolitan Area (MA) February 2009

		Labor Fore	се	U	nemploym	nent	Γι	Jnemploymen	t Rate (%)
County/MA	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Fe 200		Feb. 2008
Abbeville	11,707	11,461	11,271	1,775	1,506	817	15.	2 13.1	7.2
Aiken	76,148	75,885	73,481	7,256	6,382	3,697	9.		5.0
Allendale	3,395	3,406	3,261	793	789	478	23.		14.7
Anderson MSA	87,322	85,914	84,677	11,083	9,790	5,067	12.		6.0
Bamberg	6,238	6,230	6,239	1,053	1,027	555	16.		8.9
Barnwell	9,113	9,081	8,684	1,573	1,500	789	17.	3 16.5	9.1
Beaufort	63,707	63,636	61,365	5,509	5,309	2,768	8.		4.5
Berkeley	80,490	80,304	77,355	8,268	7,656	3,984	10.		5.2
Calhoun	7,152	7,143	6,798	815	807	362	11.		5.3
Charleston	176,739	177,034	172,164	14,588	13,927	7,434	8.		4.3
		00.070		·			4=		
Cherokee	26,379	26,078	25,334	4,473	4,032	1,922	17.		7.6
Chester	15,903	15,805	15,168	3,302	3,089	1,648	20.		10.9
Chesterfield	19,378	19,316	18,231	3,402	3,231	1,330	17.		7.3
Clarendon	12,585	12,565	12,377	2,030	1,964	1,042	16.		8.4
Colleton	16,944	16,826	16,166	2,416	2,237	1,056	14.	3 13.3	6.5
Darlington	32,476	32,501	30,947	4,335	4,196	2,177	13.		7.0
Dillon	13,136	13,094	12,620	2,201	2,121	1,171	16.		9.3
Dorchester	64,371	64,332	61,835	6,320	5,938	2,860	9.		4.6
Edgefield	11,289	11,137	10,809	1,252	1,011	642	11.		5.9
Fairfield	11,489	11,482	10,992	1,516	1,510	863	13.	2 13.2	7.9
Florence	64,724	64,657	62,535	7,210	6,808	3,735	11.	1 10.5	6.0
Georgetown	30,451	30,437	29,091	3,984	3,920	2,054	13.		7.1
Greenville	227,167	226,513	220,835	21,607	19,996	10,080	9.		4.6
Greenwood	30,482	30,307	30,085	4,128	3,868	1,977	13.		6.6
Hampton	7,828	7,790	7,564	1,268	1,198	559	16.		7.4
Hormy/Mymtle December MCA	407.405	106 146	104 005	40 240	10.004	0.220	14	3 440	6.7
Horry/Myrtle Beach MSA	127,105	126,146	124,825	18,218	18,004	8,328 486	14.		6.7 5.0
Jasper	10,220	10,188	9,692	1,076 3,356	1,024		10.		
Kershaw	30,848	30,662	29,653		3,173	1,731	10.		5.8
Lancaster	30,028	29,923	29,375	5,530	5,228	3,096	18.		10.5 7.0
Laurens	34,101	34,091	33,332	3,857	3,706	2,323	11.	3 10.9	7.0
Lee	8,241	8,217	8,007	1,240	1,185	678	15.		8.5
Lexington	134,288	133,572	130,895	10,644	9,941	5,318	7.		4.1
McCormick	13,380	13,480	12,586	2,928	2,984	1,536	21.	9 22.1	12.2
Marion	12,006	12,093	11,490	2,360	2,359	1,246	19.		10.8
Marlboro	3,565	3,486	3,466	686	594	364	19.	2 17.0	10.5
Newberry	18,707	18,349	18,299	2.411	1,929	1,028	12.	9 10.5	5.6
Oconee	31,015	30,940	30,056	4,271	4,105	1,889	13.	8 13.3	6.3
Orangeburg	40,378	40,444	40,779	6,279	6,233	3,087	15.		7.6
Pickens	59,773	59,942	57,921	5,878	5,796	2,664	9.		4.6
Richland	182,504	182,097	178,205	15,771	15,382	8,866	8.		5.0
Saluda	9,351	9,254	9,012	890	793	418	9.	5 8.6	4.6
Spartanburg MSA	140,520	141,158	134,872	16,169	15,114	7,363	11.		5.5
Sumter MSA	42,936	42,625	43,030	5,870	5,447	3,208	13.		7.5
Union	12,379	12,023	11,610	2,429	2,043	1,098	19.		9.5
Williamsburg	15,642	15,625	15,200	2,522	2,445	1,408	16.		9.3
York	110,077	109,793	105,005	15,753	14,049	6,224	14.		5.9
Mariel Orange MOA									
Multi-County MSAs	004 000	004.000	044.055	00.450	07.504	44.070		4 00	4.0
Charleston MSA	321,600	321,669	311,355	29,176	27,521	14,279	9.		4.6
Columbia MSA	375,631	374,212	365,555	32,991	31,607	17,558	8.		4.8
Florence MSA	97,200	97,158	93,482	11,545	11,004	5,912	11.		6.3
Greenville MSA	321,041	320,546	312,089	31,342	29,498	15,068	9.	8 9.2	4.8
South Carolina*	2,191.8	2,186.2	2,126.9	241.0	225.9	120.6	11.	0 10.3	5.7
United States*	154,210	153,720	153,500	12,470	11,620	7,420	8.	1 7.6	4.8
	,2.10	. 50,1 20	.50,500	12,710	. 1,020	. ,0	J.	. 7.0	1.0

^{*}Seasonally adjusted; in thousands



Unemployment Rates by Workforce Investment Area (WIA) February 2009



WIA Areas	Feb. 2009	WIA Areas	Feb. 2009	WIA Areas	Feb. 2009
CATAMBA MIA	45.0	MIDLANDO MIA	2.5	LIBBER CAMANINALI MA	40.0
CATAWBA WIA	15.8	MIDLANDS WIA	8.5	UPPER SAVANNAH WIA	12.6
Chester County	20.8	Fairfield County	13.2	McCormick County	19.2
Lancaster County	18.4	Richland County	8.6	Abbeville County	15.2
York County	14.3	Lexington County	7.9	Greenwood County	13.5
				Newberry County	12.9
		PEE DEE WIA	14.5	Laurens County	11.3
GREENVILLE WIA	9.5	Marion County	21.9	Edgefield County	11.1
Greenville County	9.5	Marlboro County	19.7	Saluda County	9.5
		Chesterfield County	17.6		
		Dillon County	16.8	UPSTATE WIA	12.9
LOWCOUNTRY WIA	10.4	Darlington County	13.3	Union County	19.6
Hampton County	16.2	Florence County	11.1	Cherokee County	17.0
Colleton County	14.3	The state of the s		Spartanburg County	11.5
Jasper County	10.5	SANTEE-LYNCHES WIA	13.2		
Beaufort County	8.6	Clarendon County	16.1	WACCAMAW WIA	14.3
		Lee County	15.0	Williamsburg County	16.1
LOWER SAVANNAH WIA	12.5	Sumter County	13.7	Horry County	14.3
Allendale County	23.4	Kershaw County	10.9	Georgetown County	13.1
Barnwell County	17.3	•		3	
Bamberg County	16.9	TRIDENT WIA	9.1	WORKLINK WIA	11.9
Orangeburg County	15.6	Berkeley County	10.3	Oconee County	13.8
Calhoun County	11.4	Dorchester County	9.8	Anderson County	12.7
Aiken County	9.5	Charleston County	8.3	Pickens County	9.8
,		•		•	

Statewide Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment February 2009

	_				
				Not Ch	ango Erom:
		_			ange From:
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
Industry	2009	2009	2008	2009	2008
- Industry					
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,840,700	1,842,400	1,929,400	-1,700	-88,700
Total Private	1,495,400	1,500,800	1,580,400	-5,400	-85,000
Goods Producing				-5,400 -7,500	-34,200
	332,500	340,000	366,700		
Service Providing	1,508,200	1,502,400	1,562,700	5,800	-54,500
Believia Comita a Breadillian	4 400 000	4 400 000	4 040 700	0.400	F0 000
Private Service Providing	1,162,900	1,160,800	1,213,700	2,100	-50,800
Mining O Lauring	4.000	4 200	4.500	•	200
Mining & Logging	4,200	4,200	4,500	0	-300
O-mathematical	405.000	407 400	445 700	0.400	40.400
Construction	105,300	107,400	115,700	-2,100	-10,400
Construction of Buildings	26,100	27,200	29,700	-1,100	-3,600
Heavy & Civil Engineering	13,400	13,400	16,100	0	-2,700
Specialty Trade Contractors	65,800	66,800	69,900	-1,000	-4,100
Manufacturing	223,000	228,400	246,500	-5,400	-23,500
Durable Goods	123,500	127,200	137,800	-3,700	-14,300
Primary Metal & Fabricated Metal Products	33,300	33,400	33,500	-100	-200
Computer & Electronic Products, Electrical Equip.,		00,100			
Appliance & Component	18,300	18,300	18,700	0	-400
Transportation Equipment	30,800	30,900	31,700	-100	-900
Transportation Equipment	30,000	30,300	31,700	100	-300
Nondurable Goods	99,500	101,200	108,700	-1,700	-9,200
			′ 1	,	-9,200
Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products	18,500	18,600	18,600	-100	
Textile Mills, Textile Mills Products & Apparel	24,000	24,900	29,100	-900	-5,100
Petroleum, Coal Products & Chemical	20,600	20,700	21,600	-100	-1,000
Plastics & Rubber Products	20,200	20,300	20,700	-100	-500
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	354,400	356,000	373,400	-1,600	-19,000
Wholesale Trade	67,000	69,400	71,500	-2,400	-4,500
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	33,700	35,700	38,200	-2,000	-4,500
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	20,700	20,800	20,800	-100	-100
Retail Trade	223,600	222,900	236,700	700	-13,100
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	28,600	28,500	30,100	100	-1,500
Food & Beverage Stores	42,100	42,100	43,200	0	-1,100
Health & Personal Care Stores	15,900	16,000	15,500	-100	400
Clothing & Clothing Accessories Stores	17.900	18,500	21,400	-600	-3,500
General Merchandise Stores	44,900	45,500	49,700	-600	-4,800
Constal Motorialialoc Clotos	77,500	0,000	70,700	-000	7,000
Transportation, Warehouse & Utilities	63,800	63,700	65,200	100	-1,400
Utilities	13,100	13,200	12,500	-100	600
Transportation & Warehousing	50,700	50,500	52,700	200	-2,000
Information	00.400	00.400	00.000	•	4 000
Information	29,400	29,400	28,200	0	1,200
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	6,800	6,800	6,900	0	-100
Telecommunications	13,200	13,400	13,300	-200	-100
Financial Activities	103,300	105,600	106,000	-2,300	-2,700
Finance & Insurance	74,900	77,000	76,400	-2,100	-1,500
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	34,800	36,300	38,100	-1,500	-3,300
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	28,400	28,600	29,600	-200	-1,200
· ·	•	•	·		

Note: Due to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics restrictions, some industry employment estimates published in prior years will no longer be available. Monthly estimates for metropolitan areas with a population less than 50,000 will not be published; therefore, data for the Sumter MSA will not be available.

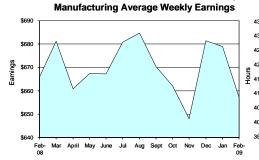


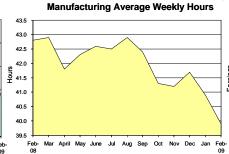
Statewide Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (continued from previous page)

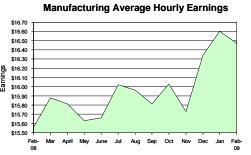
				Net Cha	nge From:
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
<u>Industry</u>	2009	2009	2008	2009	2008
Professional and Business Services	206,100	203,800	222,300	2,300	-16,200
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	76,600	74,200	77,900	2,400	-1,300
Architectural, Engineering & Related Services	21,100	20,900	20,600	200	500
Management of Companies & Enterprises	15,600	15,500	15,400	100	200
Administrative & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation Svcs	113,900	114,100	129,000	-200	-15,100
Administrative & Support Services	103,600	103,900	117,700	-300	-14,100
Employment Services	43,900	44,500	51,800	-600	-7,900
Services to Buildings & Dwellings	30,700	30,300	32,500	400	-1,800
Educational and Health Services	206,200	205,600	206,200	600	0
Health Care & Social Assistance	171,100	171,600	171,000	-500	100
Ambulatory Health Care Services	67,300	67,100	66,300	200	1,000
Hospitals	42,900	42,800	42,400	100	500
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	36,200	36,000	35,600	200	600
Leisure and Hospitality	192,500	191,000	207.200	1.500	-14.700
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	26,000	25,100	25,400	900	600
Amusement, Gambling & Recreation	21,500	20,800	20,900	700	600
Accommodation & Food Services	166,500	165,900	181,800	600	-15,300
Accommodation	25,500	24,800	27,000	700	-1,500
Food Services & Drinking Places	141,000	141,100	154,800	-100	-13,800
Other Services (except Public Administration)	71,000	69,400	70,400	1,600	600
Repair & Maintenance	16,800	16,500	17,500	300	-700
Personal & Laundry Services	17,500	17,300	17,300	200	200
Total Government	345,300	341,600	349,000	3.700	-3,700
Federal Government	30,400	30,700	29,900	-300	500
State Government	99,100	95,000	100,500	4,100	-1,400
State Government Education	44,100	39,800	45,400	4,300	-1,300
Local Government	215,800	215,900	218,600	-100	-2,800
Local Government Education	112,500	112,100	113,500	400	-1,000

February 2009 Average Hours and Earnings

		Average Weekly Earnings (\$)			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings (\$)		
Industry	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	
Manufacturing	657.15	678.94	665.97	39.9	40.9	42.8	16.47	16.60	15.56	
Durable Goods	672.76	710.24	682.38	42.1	43.6	44.6	15.98	16.29	15.30	
Nondurable Goods	640.66	642.79	644.36	37.4	37.7	40.5	17.13	17.05	15.91	









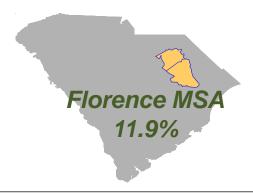
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas February 2009

	Florence			Myrtle Beach			
Industry	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	
Total Nonagricultural Employment	86,400	86,600	88,500	109,900	108,800	118,200	
Total Private	69,500	70,000	71,400	94,600	93,400	102,900	
Goods Producing	15,900	16,100	17,200	12.700	12,800	14.600	
Service Providing	70,500	70,500	71,300	97,200	96,000	103,600	
Private Service Providing	53,600	53,900	54,200	81,900	80,600	88,300	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	16,800	16,800	17,400	25,000	25,100	25,300	
Retail Trade	- ,	.,	,	20,900	20,800	20,500	
Leisure & Hospitality				26,000	24,900	29,400	
Accommodations & Food Services				21,000	20,300	24,600	
Food Services & Drinking Places				14,000	13,800	16,600	
Total Government	16,900	16,600	17,100	15,300	15,400	15,300	
Federal Government	700	700	800	600	600	600	
State Government	3,400	3,200	3,600	3,300	3,400	3,500	
Local Government	12,800	12,700	12,700	11,400	11,400	11,200	

February 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Florence
Darlington County
Florence County

Myrtle Beach-North Myrtle Beach-Conway Horry County





Palmetto Progress . . . News on Job Creation in South Carolina's Economy

Laurens County — Force V Environmental, LLC, announced it will open a new window and door production facility in Laurens County. The \$2.5 million initial investment is expected to create just under 200 new jobs. The facility is anticipated to be operating by April of this year. Force V Environmental will be working in partnership with *readySC* to train new employees. The company specializes in state-of-the-art technology in manufacturing windows and doors. Their products are designed to be energy efficient and qualifies for the tax credits and benefits under the new federal stimulus

plan. Force V also excels in providing hurricane windows and doors that meet energy star codes. (independentmail.com)

Greenville County — A new packaging manufacturer will locate its first facility in Greenville, creating more than 60 jobs and investing more than \$1 million over three years. Container Design & Solutions will manufacture corrugated containers and returnable packaging, along with providing custom packaging for a regional client base. (www.scbizmag.com)



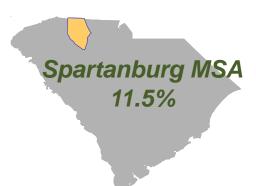
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas February 2009

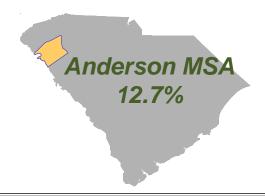
		Spartanbur	g		Anderson	
<u>Industry</u>	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	124,600	126,300	128,900	60,400	60,000	64,100
Total Private	105,400	107,300	109,600	48,300	47,800	51,900
Goods Producing	32,200	32,600	34,600	15,900	16,100	17,100
Service Providing	92,400	93,700	94,300	44,500	43,900	47,000
Private Service Providing	73,200	74,700	75,000	32,400	31,700	34,800
Manufacturing	26,000	26,200	27,100	12,300	12,500	13,400
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	25,000	25,800	27,000	11,300	11,400	11,800
Retail Trade	13,300	13,300	14,100	8,100	8,100	8,400
Total Government	19,200	19,000	19,300	12,100	12,200	12,200
Federal Government	500	500	500	300	300	300
State Government	3,800	3,600	4,000	2,100	2,000	2,100
Local Government	14,900	14,900	14,800	9,700	9,900	9,800

February 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas

SpartanburgSpartanburg County

Anderson County





Lexington County — Sun Printing will be expanding its printing facility in Lexington County. The \$6 million capital investment is expected to add up to 50 jobs by year's end. The 26-year-old company has expanded into a 20,000-square-foot printing facility that can do work more quickly and give customers information on printing jobs, vice president Philip Morris said. Sun Printing provides a full range of customer printing services, from large-format digital printing to books and manuals. The Orangeburg based printer employs 23 in the Columbia area, and 150 overall at six locations in the United States and Mexico. (*The State*)

Union County — Allied Industries International, Inc., has located its new production facility in Union County. The \$2.1 million project is expected to generate 35 new jobs. The new facility will help meet increased demand from customers. The company produces slipresistant floor coverings that are used in restaurants and are made from recycled materials. Allied Industries is headquartered in Charlotte, NC, and has five operations across the U.S. Restaurants using the company's products include Chick-fil-A, Outback Steakhouse, Applebee's, Carrabba's Italian Grille, Bojangles' and KFC. (www.scbizmag.com)

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in the Major Metropolitan Areas February 2009

		Greenville		Columbia			Charleston		
ndustry	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	308,500	309,300	319,100	357,700	356,800	366,100	290,300	291,700	297,700
Total Private	264,100	265,000	275,000	277,900	279,000	285,800	232,400	233,800	240,600
Goods Producing	57,800	58,500	61,000	48,900	49,300	51,100	40,300	40,900	43,200
Service Providing	250,700	250,800		308,800	307,500	315,000	250,000	250,800	254,500
Private Service Providing	206,300	206,500	214,000	229,000	229,700	234,700	192,100	192,900	197,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	16,400	16,700	17,900	19,100	19,200	20,300	18,900	19,100	20,400
Manufacturing	41,400	41,800	43,100	29,800	30,100	30,800	21,400	21,800	22,800
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	62,200	62,500	65,300	66,700	67,500	69,400	54,900	55,500	57,200
Wholesale Trade	14,600	14,600	14,700	16,000	16,300	16,700	8.800	8,900	8,800
Retail Trade	35.300	35,400	38,000	39,200	39,700	41,000	34,000	34,500	36,200
Food & Beverage Stores	00,000	,	,	6,100	6.100	6,400	1 .,	.,	00,200
General Merchandise Stores				8,200	8,300	9,000	7,500	7,600	7,700
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	12,300	12,500	12,600	11,500	11,500	11,700	12,100	12,100	12,200
Information	7,100	7,100	6,700	6,100	6,000	5,900	5,800	5,800	5,600
Financial Activities	15.000	15,100	15,300	30.000	30.100	30,100	13.700	13,800	14,100
Credit Intermediation & Related Act.	10,000	10,100	10,000	7,900	7,900	8,000	10,700	10,000	14,100
Professional & Business Services	49.500	49,200	53,400	37.800	38,500	41,900	41,400	41,600	42,500
Admin.,Supp.,Waste Mgt & Rem. Svc.	30,300	30,300	31,600	19,500	19,600	21,800	22,500	22,400	22,900
Educational & Health Services	31,700	31,600	31,500	44,500	44,300	43,100	32,300	32,100	31,300
Health Care & Social Assistance	23,800	23,800	23,300		,	ĺ		,	,
Leisure & Hospitality	29,000	29,400	30,100	29,900	29,500	30,500	32,700	33,000	35,400
Accommodations & Food Services							28,900	29,300	31,800
Food Services & Drinking Places				23,400	23,400	24,900	24,600	24,500	25,200
Other Services (except Pub. Adm.)	11,800	11,600	11,700	14,000	13,800	13,800	11,300	11,100	11,300
Total Government	44,400	44,300	44,100	79,800	77,800	80,300	57,900	57,900	57,100
Federal Government	2,100	2,100	2,200	9,800	9,900	9,500	8,400	8,400	8,300
State Government	10,100	10,000	10,800	33,500	31,200	34,500	21,900	21,900	22,100
Local Government	32,200	32,200	31,100	36,500	36,700	36,300	27,600	27,600	26,700

February 2009 Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Statistical Areas

<u>Greenville</u>

Greenville County Laurens County Pickens County

<u>Columbia</u>

Calhoun County Fairfield County Kershaw County Lexington County Richland County Saluda County

<u>Charleston-North Charleston-</u> Summerville

Summerville
Berkeley County
Charleston County
Dorchester County







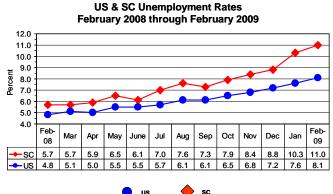


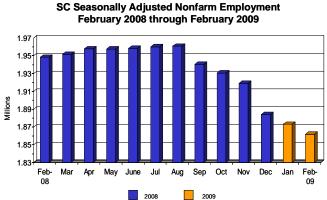
Estimated Number of Manufacturing Production Workers February 2009

Industry	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Net Chan Jan. 2009	ge From: Feb. 2008
Manufacturing	166,100	171,400	187,900	-5,300	-21,800
Durable Goods	90,800	94,500	104,600	-3,700	-13,800
Nondurable Goods	75,300	76,900	83,300	-1,600	-8,000

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment February 2009

				Net Chang	ge From:
Industry	Feb. 2009	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2008
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,861,700	1,873,000	1,948,300	-11,300	-86,600
Construction	107,200	109,300	117,800	-2,100	-10,600
Manufacturing	224,700	229,800	24,690	-5,100	200,010
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities Retail Trade	359,000 227,300	360,800 226,300	378,800 241,200	-1,800 1,000	-19,800 -13,900
Information	29,600	29,700	28,500	-100	1,100
Financial Activites	103,900	106,100	106,900	-2,200	-3,000
Professional and Business Services	211,500	209,800	224,300	1,700	-12,800
Educational and Health Services	206,100	206,400	205,700	-300	400
Leisure and Hospitality	204,000	205,500	219,300	-1,500	-15,300
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation Accommodation & Food Services	28,100 175,900	27,800 177,700	27,900 191,400	300 -1,800	200 -15,500
Other Services	71,600	70,700	71,000	900	600
Government	339,900	340,700	344,600	-800	-4,700
Federal Government State Government	30,600 98,000	30,700 97,300	30,100 100,000	-100 700	500 -2,000
Local Government	211,300	212,700	214,500	-1,400	-3,200





The South Carolina Workforce TRENDS is a monthly publication of the South Carolina Employment Security Commission, Labor Market Information Department.

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GLOSSARY

Benchmark – A statistical technique applied to annual data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year, due to sampling error and statistical modeling.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) - BLS is part of the U.S. Department of Labor and functions as the principal data-gathering agency of the federal government in the field of labor economics. BLS collects, processes, analyzes and disseminates data relating to employment, unemployment, the labor force, productivity, prices, family expenditures, wages, industrial relations, and occupational safety and health.

Employment – A count of all persons who worked full or part-time or received pay from a nonagricultural employer for any part of the pay period that included the 12th day of the month. Because this count comes from a survey of employers, persons who work for two different companies would be counted twice. Therefore, nonfarm payroll employment is really a count of the number of jobs, rather than the number of persons employed. Persons may receive pay from a job if they are temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacations, or a labormanagement dispute. This count is based on where the jobs are located, regardless of where the workers reside, and is sometimes referred to as employment "by place of work." Nonfarm payroll employment data are collected and compiled by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Survey.

Labor Market Information (LMI) - LMI is a body of knowledge that describes the nature, characteristics, and operation of those mechanisms, institutions, and participants involved in the matching of labor supply with demand. LMI is made up of a variety of economic. social, and demographic information. The information describes current conditions and forecasts conditions at a future date. LMI is comprised of population data, labor force data, occupational data, general economic trends, and career data. LMI information can be used to determine policy and program needs, to allocate resources, and to establish program performance standards.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary are projected from a first quarter 2008 **Employment** – An estimate of all part- and fulltime wage and salary employees who worked during, or received pay from the pay period that Nonagricultural wage and salary included the 12th day of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work.

Seasonal Adjustment - A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to seasonal events, such as changes in the weather, major holidays, shifts in production schedules, harvest times, and the opening and closing of schools.

Unemployment – An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week that includes the 12th day of the month.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) - The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 provides the framework for a unique national workforce development system designed to meet the needs of both the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers or those who want to further their careers. South Carolina has 12 Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA). The Act requires that each local workforce investment area establish a One-Stop Delivery System including at least one full-service or comprehensive one-stop career center. The full-service one-stop career center must have universal access, including a host of mandatory human services, employment related programs and a partnership, inclusive of each mandatory program that exists in the local community.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept of Labor

TECHNICAL NOTES

South Carolina Workforce Trends is prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The current month's estimates are preliminary while all previous data are subject to revision. Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). All estimates

benchmark.

employment estimates include all full and parttime wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Therefore, these data are not strictly comparable with the labor force data which represent persons by place of residence. Excluded from wage and salary estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees, and unpaid family workers. A small percentage of wage and salary workers cannot be allocated to specific counties because of the nature of their jobs. Therefore, county data will not add to state totals.

Production worker estimates include full and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Labor force data are adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark, and represent employment and unemployment by place of residence. These data are not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, and self-employed. The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing total unemployment by the labor force, and is expressed as a percent. Because of the conceptual differences stated above, total employment may in some instances be lower than nonagricultural wage and salary employment.



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION Statewide Workforce Centers

Abbeville

353 Highway 28 Bypass Abbeville, SC 29620 (864) 459-5486

Aiken

1571 Richland Avenue, East Aiken, SC 29802 (803) 641-7640

Anderson

309 West Whitner Street Anderson, SC 29622 (864) 226-6273

Barnwell

248 Wall Street Barnwell, SC 29812 (803) 259-7116

Beaufort

164 Castlerock Road Beaufort, SC 29906 (843) 524-3351

Bennettsville

Highway 9-W Cheraw Hwy Bennettsville, SC 29512 (843) 479-4081

Camden

205 East DeKalb Street Camden, SC 29020 (803) 432-5153

Charleston

176 Lockwood Boulevard Charleston, SC 29403 (843) 953-8400

Chester

764 Wilson Street Chester, SC 29706 (803) 377-8147

Clinton

18 Hazel Drive Clinton, SC 29325 (864) 833-0142

Coastal

200-A Victory Lane Conway, SC 29526 (843) 234-9675

Columbia

700 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 737-5627

Florence

1558 West Evans Street Florence, SC 59501 (843) 669-4271

Gaffney

133 Wilmac Road Gaffney, SC 29342 (864) 489-3112

Georgetown

2704 Highmarket Street Georgetown, SC 29442 (843) 546-8581

Greenville

706 Pendleton Street Greenville, SC 29602 (864) 242-3531

Greenwood

519 Monument Street Greenwood, SC 29648 (864) 223-1681

Hampton

12 Walnut Street Hampton, SC 29924 (803) 943-3291

Hartsville

1319 South Fourth Street Hartsville, SC 29551 (843) 332-1554

Kingstree

530 Martin Luther King Jr. Kingstree, SC 29556 (843) 354-7436

Lancaster

705 North White Street Lancaster, SC 29720 (803) 285-6966

Lexington

714 South Lake Drive, Suite 140 Lexington, SC 29071 (803) 359-6131

Liberty

317 Summit Drive Liberty, SC 29657 (864) 843-9512

Marion

2413 East Highway 76 Marion, SC 29571 (843) 423-6900

Moncks Corner

107 East Main Street Moncks Corner, SC 29461 (843) 761-4400

Newberry

833 Main Street Newberry, SC 29108 (803) 276-2110

Orangeburg

1804 Joe S. Jeffords Highway Orangeburg, SC 29116 (803) 534-3336

Ridgeland

7774 West Main Street Ridgeland, SC 29936 (843) 726-3750

Rock Hill

1228 Fincher Road Rock Hill, SC 29731 (803) 328-3881

Seneca

11091 Radio Station Road Seneca, SC 29679 (864) 882-5638

Spartanburg

364 South Church Street (ES) 440 South Church Street (UI) Spartanburg, SC 29304 (864) 573-7525 ES (864) 573-7231 UI

Summerville

2885 West 5th North Street Summerville, SC 29484 (843) 821-0695

Sumter

29 East Calhoun Street Sumter, SC 29151 (803) 773-7359

Union

440 Duncan Highway Union, SC 29379 (864) 427-5672

Walterboro

101 Mable T. Willis Blvd Walterboro, SC 29488 (843) 538-8980

Winnsboro

1009 Kincaid Bridge Road Winnsboro, SC 29180 (803) 635-2292



Sites of Interest on the Internet

SC Employment Security
Commission

www.sces.org

SC Labor Market Information www.sces.org/lmi

SC Government <u>www.sc.gov</u>

Federal Jobs www.fedworld.gov

Career Voyages
www.careervoyages.gov

Job Bank USA www.jobbankusa.com

Career One-Stop
www.careeronestop.org

Career Builder www.careerbuilder.com

Job Fair Info

www.jobexpo.com www.cfgcareerfairs.com

Teaching Jobs www.k-12jobs.com

Former Military

militarytransitiontimes.com www.acap.army.mil

Jobs for Women www.womenforhire.com

Hispanic Alliance & Career Enhancement www.hace-usa.org

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Mark Your Calendars for the State Employers Council Meeting

"Workers Compensation – What you need to know"
May 8, 2009
10:00am – 2:00pm

SC Employment Security Commission Complex

C. Lem Harper Building 631 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29201

RSVP by May 6, 2009

To Mike Williams at mwilliams@sces.org or call (803) 737-2703



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